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A NEW EPIDENDRUM FROM SPANISH HONDURAS

BY
OAKES AMES

From Mr. J. B. Edwards, who has been collecting in the vicinity of San Juancito, Honduras, there has been received a species of *Epidendrum* which appears to be undescribed. It is closely related to *E. arbuscula* Lindl. differing from it in both vegetative and floral characters. The unbranched stems, linear-lanceolate leaves, shorter floral bracts and pedicels, and the somewhat smaller flowers in a paniculate rather than racemose inflorescence are conspicuous differentiating characters. In *E. arbuscula* the naked portion of the peduncle is very short and stout, while in the new species the peduncle below the flowers is elongated and very slender.

***Epidendrum Edwardsii* Ames, sp. nov.**

Herba terrestris. Radices albidæ, glabrae, carnosae. Caules plus minusve erecti, foliosi, foliis distichis lineari-lanceolatis, infra folia vaginis persistentibus arcte adpressis. Pedunculus elongatus, satis gracilis, basi bractea scariosa vaginanti instructus. Inflorescentia laxè paniculata, pauciflora. Sepala similia, oblonga, acuta, patentia. Petala spathulata, acuta. Labellum trilobatum, colum-

nae adpressum et cum ea in tubum adnatum; lobi laterales subdolabriformes, margine irregulariter denticulato; lobus medius subsimilis, emarginatus cum apiculo obtuso interjecto; discus prope apicem columnae conspicue bicallosus, per medium leviter carinatus. Columna sectionis.

Plant 4.5–6 dm. high. Roots whitish, smooth, coarsely fibrous. Stems slender, erect, about 4 mm. in diameter near the base, concealed by the tubular closely appressed sheaths with which the leaves are articulated. Leaves numerous, distichous, the lower ones 3–6 cm. long and 1 cm. wide, lanceolate, acute, their sheathing bases 3.5–5.5 cm. long, tinged with violet-purple, the upper ones up to 16 cm. long, 1–1.7 cm. wide, linear-lanceolate, acute, chartaceous when dry, 1.5–2 cm. apart on the stem. Inflorescence erect, subpaniculate, terminal, 6.5–12 cm. long. Peduncle with the rachis 5.5–11 cm. long, provided with one or more sheathing acute scarious bracts. Flowers 5 to 7, fleshy. Pedicels about 8 mm. long, smooth, slender. Bracts of the panicle 3.5–10 mm. long, usually much shorter than the pedicels, linear to triangular, strongly concave. Ovary about 5 mm. long, smooth. Lateral sepals 10–11 mm. long, 2.75 mm. wide, oblong, acute, spreading, margins strongly revolute. Dorsal sepal similar, 12 mm. long, erect. Petals 11–11.5 mm. long, 2–3 mm. wide, spatulate, acute. Labellum distinctly 3-lobed, including the basal part that is adnate to the column 11–12 mm. long; free portion up to 8 mm. long, 10 mm. wide across the lateral lobes, with a more or less clearly defined central keel on the upper surface, and with two hemispherical complanate calli on the disc in front of the apex of the column; lateral lobes sub-dolabriform, about 5 mm. wide with an irregularly dentate or crenulate margin; middle lobe up to 11.5 mm. wide, about 3.5 mm. long, emarginate with a blunt

apicule, margin entire, undulate or sometimes sparsely dentate. Calli 1.5 mm. long, 1 mm. high. Column 6 mm. long, very slender toward the base, dilated upward; margin of the clinandrium dentate, tinged with purple.

REPUBLIC OF HONDURAS: Department of Tegucigalpa. Vicinity of San Juancito, old lumber road at Rosario. Terrestrial on exposed rocky ledges at 5000 feet altitude. Sepals and petals white to pale pink; lip white with purple dot. February 14, 1932. *J. B. Edwards 122*. (TYPE in Herb. Ames No. 37891.)

TWO NEW ORCHIDS FROM YUCATAN AND TRINIDAD

BY

OAKES AMES AND CHARLES SCHWEINFURTH

Among orchids sent to us for identification there are two undescribed species, a *Pleurothallis* submitted by the Field Museum of Natural History and an *Epidendrum* collected by W. E. Broadway. These may be characterized as follows:

***Pleurothallis yucatanensis* Ames & Schweinfurth,**
sp. nov.

Herba epiphytica, pusilla. Rhizoma repens, caulibus numerosis brevissimis ornatum. Folia oblanceolata, apice rotundato minute bilobulata. Racemi laxiflori, pauciflori. Flores pusilli. Sepala lateralalia anguste lanceolata, uninervia. Sepalum dorsale majus, lanceolatum, concavum. Petala triangulari-lineararia. Labellum oblongum, apice late rotundatum, parte inferiore leviter dilatata. Columna apice alato-dilatata.

Plant very small, up to 5 cm. tall, epiphytic, recalling *P. sertularioides* Lindl. Rhizome creeping, entirely invested by imbricating scarious nervose sheaths. Roots fibrous, glabrous, stout for the plant. Stems very short, approximate, ascending, unifoliate, about 2.5 mm. long, when young entirely invested by imbricating tubular scarious sheaths. Leaf oblanceolate, 8–15 mm. long, about 2.8–3.5 mm. wide, broadly rounded at the apex with a minutely bilobed apiculate tip, gradually narrowed to a 1-jointed petiole, very rugose in the dried specimen. Inflorescence conspicuously surpassing the leaf, solitary, about 3 cm. tall; peduncle capillary, adorned below the

middle with one close tubular sheath; racemes very lax, 2- to 5-flowered. Floral bracts loose, infundibuliform, twice or thrice surpassed by the slender ascending pedicels. Flowers small, segments of the perianth subparallel, slightly thickened toward the apex. Lateral sepals free, narrowly lanceolate, 2.5 mm. long, 1- or obscurely 3-nerved, acute, carinate on the outer side. Dorsal sepal slightly longer, lanceolate, about 2.8 mm. long, obtuse, concave, obscurely 3-nerved. Petals linear-triangular, 2.5 mm. long, 1-nerved, acute, slightly oblique. Labelum much shorter, simple, very shortly clawed; lamina oblong or lanceolate-oblong in outline with the erect sides of the lower half slightly dilated from a cuneate base, about 1.4 mm. long, broadly rounded at the apex, 3-nerved, minutely auriculate at base. Column short, almost 1.2 mm. long, with an abrupt quadrate wing on either side of the upper half, extended in a foot. Anther cupuliform.

Pleurothallis yucatanensis suggests *P. sertularioides* Lindl., but differs in having racemose inflorescences and simple lip.

MEXICO: Yucatan, Campeche, Tuxpeña, C. L. Lundell 912, November 8, 1931. Common on tree trunks and old logs. (TYPE in Herb. Ames No. 37882.)

***Epidendrum Broadwayi* Ames & Schweinfurth, sp. nov.**

Herba humilis, epiphytica. Caules caespitosi, tenuiter subclavati, omnino velati, mono-vel diphylli. Folia anguste linearia, graminea, acuta. Inflorescentia singula, quam folia multo brevior, laxe racemosa. Sepala lateraliter oblique elliptico-lanceolata, apice conspicue carinato-mucronata. Sepalum dorsale oblanceolato-oblongum. Petala oblanceolato-lineariter. Labellum apici columnae adnatum, trilobatum, lobo terminali majore subquadrato triangulari-acuto vel retuso et apiculato.

Plant small, epiphytic, up to 17 cm. tall, closely related to *E. tipuloides* Lindl. Stems approximate, slenderly subclavate, about 4–5.5 cm. high, altogether invested by close tubular scarious sheaths which waste into fibres, one- or commonly two-leaved at the apex, rugose in the dried state. Leaves narrowly linear, up to 11.7 cm. long and 4.2 mm. wide (generally much shorter), acute, the mid-nerve more or less prominently sulcate above and carinate beneath. Inflorescence much shorter than the leaves, the longest scape about 4.5 cm. high, clasped at the base by a loose tubular sheath which is up to 1.6 cm. long. Raceme loosely 4- to 7-flowered. Floral bracts minute, lanceolate, membranaceous, many times exceeded by the slender pedicels. Pedicellate ovary up to 1.3 cm. long, laxly spreading. Flowers large for the plant, yellow in the dried specimen, rather fleshy in texture. Lateral sepals obliquely elliptic-lanceolate, prominently adnate to the column at the base, 11 mm. long, 3.2–4 mm. wide, dorsally carinate-mucronate at the tip, prominently 7-nerved near the base. Dorsal sepal oblong-elliptic or oblanceolate-oblong, about 10 mm. long, 3.1–3.7 mm. wide, acute, conspicuously 7-nerved below. Petals oblanceolate-linear, 8.6–9.3 mm. long, more or less oblique, acute, 3-nerved. Labellum adnate to the apex of the column, 3-lobed; lamina about 5.1–5.5 mm. long from the center of the cordate base to the tip, about 6.4 mm. wide when expanded, bicallose at base; lateral lobes semiovate or rounded, obtuse, extending to about half the length of the lip, erose on the margins; terminal lobe much larger, irregularly subquadrate, with a prominent triangular acute apex, or retuse and apiculate. Column stout, about 6.2 mm. long, dilated above. Anther broadly ovoid. Pollinia 4, complanate-ovoid.

Epidendrum Broadwayi is very similar in habit to

Epidendrum tipuloides Lindl., but it has a dissimilar anterior lobe of the lip and 3-nerved petals. The flowers also are apparently of a different color, being yellow in the dried specimen.

TRINIDAD: North coast, Saut d'Eau *W. E. Broadway* 7444, January 18, 1931. Grows in tufts on a tree. (TYPE in Herb. Ames No. 37893.)

ON THE IDENTITY OF KIRSANNA

BY

F. TRACY HUBBARD

In September 1930, Dr. C. S. Coon of the Peabody Museum submitted specimens of seed for identification under the name of *Kirsanna*. These had been collected for him in Morocco by Gordon Browne in the Valley of the Iherrushen where they are grown by the Tribe of Gzennaya, Rif.

The following notes of economic interest in regard to this seed were furnished by Dr. Coon. In the Rif the seeds are used for making bread after they have been thoroughly soaked to extract the poisonous element which they contain. They are placed in flat wicker baskets and weighted down in streams and allowed to remain until the poisonous element is judged to be removed. In the Rif the Berber vernacular name of the seed is *Shasanna* and the Arabic name is *Kirsanna*. Dr. Coon further states that the name of the seed in Armenia is *Kushna* and that it is used there for feeding cattle after the poisonous element has been removed by soaking.

After several unsuccessful attempts the seed was finally grown to maturity at the Botanical Garden and proves to be *Vicia Ervilia* (L.) Willd.

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